

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

**August 12, 2014**

**Establishing a Robust, Scalable and Consolidated Data Center**

Data center facilities house and maintain back-end information technology (IT) systems and mainframes, servers and databases. In the days of large, centralized IT operations, all of the systems resided in one physical place, hence the name data center. These centers are comprised of actual computer rooms, also known as raised floor space, and surrounding area that contains power, cooling, and other utilities to support the operation of the facility.

In 2003, a programming development document was prepared by Bruns-Pak, a company which creates design-build solutions for mission-critical data centers, at the request of the Internal Services Department (ISD). Based on information previously assembled by ISD, Department of Public Works, and the architectural firm of Widom, Wein, Cohen, O'Leary, Terasawa, the programming development document recommended the construction of a 67,000 square foot data center that could serve the needs of the entire County of Los Angeles (County).

- MORE -

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVKSY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
**August 12, 2014**  
**PAGE 2**

In 2010, the County's Chief Information Officer (CIO) conducted a survey to estimate the current number of data centers maintained by all County departments. The survey confirmed a total of 65 data centers representing a total of 67,800 square feet of raised floors including ISD's outdated 29,400 square foot data center and a number of disaster recovery data centers which, as a best practice measure, should remain separate from the primary data center. Based on the Burns-Pak programming development document from 2003, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Director of the Department of Public Works (DPW), and Director of ISD are proposing the construction of a 58,000 square foot data center with a 27,000 square foot raised floor to host most of the County's 65 data centers at a cost of \$209 million. This reflects a 90% increase from the \$110 million budget approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2009.

In the recent past, at least three other government entities similar in size and complexity to the County have consolidated into higher-density, energy-efficient data centers and achieved significant cost savings. In 2008, the Governor and the California State CIO recognized that the State's infrastructure was unsustainable and consolidated its outdated infrastructure into facilities that are operated collaboratively by agencies and departments as joint tenants. This approach spread the costs among departments and reduced the need for duplicative data centers. As a part of that consolidation effort, the State decommissioned more than 75,000 square feet of raised floor space at the State's Cannery Complex, and replaced it with 7,000 square feet of existing, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum-certified high-density data center space in

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
**August 12, 2014**  
**PAGE 3**

Vacaville. The new data center resulted in a \$3.7 million annual savings in energy costs alone.

Similarly, in 2011 New York City (City) established an 18,000 square foot, consolidated data center in Brooklyn which centralized the IT infrastructure for more than 40 City agencies. The City invested \$11.7 million in equipment and \$2.7 million annually to lease the space. This consolidation effort has resulted in more than \$100 million savings since its implementation. And finally, in 2013, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors voted to consolidate and centralize the Riverside County data storage and processing operations by leasing an existing 23,477 square foot, data center that had been vacated by Acorn Technology Corporation. The \$14 million, 10-year lease of this data center also included a back-up power supply, networking hardware, telecommunications conduits and other systems ready-made for consolidation of Riverside County's infrastructure.

In light of the successes experienced by the State of California, City of New York, and County of Riverside in establishing a significantly smaller, consolidated, scalable, energy-efficient and cost-effective data centers and given the significant technological developments that have occurred in the 10 years since the results of the CIO/ISD survey, it is important that the CIO and ISD reevaluate the space, power, and utility needs for a countywide data center.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

- 1) Instruct the Chief Information Officer (CIO), in consultation with the Director of the Internal Services Department (ISD) to identify a California-based third

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

**August 12, 2014**

**PAGE 4**

party agency that specializes in data center design and implementation in order to provide the Board of Supervisors with a written report within 60 days, with a current, comprehensive, and realistic recommendation of the County's requirements for total and raised floor space, power and utility needs for a data center. The recommended scope should:

- a) Reflect the replacement of ISD's Downey data center;
  - b) Ensure that the same data center is ready to consolidate most of the County's 64 data centers;
  - c) Accommodate future growth and consolidation; and
  - d) Contemplate using existing data centers to lease or buy in lieu of constructing a new facility.
- 2) Instruct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to contract with the California-based third party agency that specializes in data center design and implementation recommended by the CIO.
  - 3) Instruct the CEO, CIO, ISD's Information Technology Services Division and departmental CIOs to form a committee and report back in writing to the Board within 90 days with a five-year plan to consolidate most of the 65 data centers into a high-density data center.

###